

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON

76-1755

THE ADMINISTRATOR

April 1, 1976

Honorable George H. Bush  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:

As you are aware, this Agency recently completed coordinating the U.S. emergency relief activities for Guatemala. The tragic earthquakes of February 4th and 6th caused extensive damage over 3,600 square miles in the center of the country and caused total destruction in a 500 square mile area north-west of Guatemala City. The death toll is now above 23,000 with over 76,000 people injured and over one million, approximately 20% of the total population, homeless.

Our response to disasters of this kind is multifaceted and consists of levels of effort from pure technical assistance to direct give-away of food stuffs and commodities. It is in the area of technical assistance that I wish to bring to your attention the outstanding work of certain Central Intelligence Agency offices and individuals.

During the early days of the disaster response, I determined that the scope of the earthquake required broad photographic coverage of a nature that was not available in any other unclassified form except U-2 or SR-71 aircraft missions. Upon the advice of some of your experts and the Air Force, we requested two U-2 missions of the earthquake area. Since that time, a team of analysts from the National Photographic Interpretation Center has analyzed the photographs, annotated large scale maps for specific damage and dispatched a photo interpreter with the U-2 films and the necessary analytical equipment to train Guatemalan Government personnel in the interpretation of these films.

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We have received reports that this unique utilization of the U-2 in an overseas disaster and the massive effort by NPIC have provided the Guatemalan Government with the capability to assess on a large area basis the extent of the damage, the requirements for reconstruction and rehabilitation, and specific engineering tasks that must be accomplished. In fact, the analytical work accomplished by NPIC has become the data base for the entire Guatemalan reconstruction planning and programming effort.

The support of the CIA was indispensable in this endeavor and I wish to specifically commend the following individuals for their outstanding performance of duty and rapid response to what now has become the greatest tragedy in Central American history.

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[redacted] Chief of the New Applications Branch, IEG/NPIC-[redacted] is to be commended for her outstanding leadership, managerial ability, and analytical expertise in assembling a team of approximately one dozen analysts and conducting a detailed damage assessment of the earthquake area. She organized and supervised the 24-hour per day effort in such an efficient manner that we were able to send the products to the Guatemalan Government while they were still in the disaster relief phase. [redacted] and her Branch displayed a tremendous degree of initiative and flexibility in the damage assessment and within hours after receipt of the initial films were able to commence dispatching partial damage assessment data. Her dedication and ability were directly responsible for the success of the endeavor.

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[redacted] NPIC Liaison Officer, State Department-- [redacted] is to be commended for his outstanding efforts in coordinating the conduct of the photographic missions, assisting in the efforts of the New Applications Branch in the damage assessment and finally in his most valuable role--that of a teacher and photo interpreter assisting the Guatemalan Government in making efficient use of the U-2 films. [redacted] was dispatched to Guatemala with the films and interpretation equipment and without extensive prior preparation conducted several weeks of analytical training at the Geographic Institute, and other agencies of the Guatemalan Government as well as conducting briefings at the ministerial level. Information

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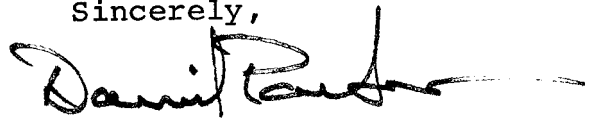
from both the President of Guatemala and the American Ambassador is that [redacted] effectiveness, persuasion, manner and high degree of technical knowledge were directly responsible for the government's ability to rapidly utilize the photography. STATINTL

[redacted] of IEG/NPIC--these people are to be commended for their dedicated and tireless effort in conducting the around-the-clock damage assessment and photo interpretation of the earthquake area. STATINTL

STATINTL [redacted] of IEG/NPIC, Photo Lab Personnel and [redacted] of OGCR/EAS, should be recognized for their devotion to this project, tireless support and outstanding analytical ability during the photo interpretation effort of NAB, NPIC. STATINTL

The performance of these professionals was in the highest traditions of the CIA and you can be justifiably proud of their effort in an unprecedented humanitarian relief and rehabilitation operation. The unique skills of the intelligence community were able to assist in planning for a rapid Guatemalan recovery.

Sincerely,



Daniel Parker

The President's Special Coordinator  
for International Disaster Assistance

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
THE ADMINISTRATOR  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20523  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Honorable George H. Bush  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

MAILED  
JAN 10 1979

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Invited him ~~to~~ *See*  
~~to~~ *5/12*

Do you wish to see

Daniel Parker to

Yes ☒ No ☐

Mr. Parker cancelled  
appointment  
will call later  
632-  
9620

lunch or invite him to  
for "dinner" after work  
on 6:30 - How  
about breakfast??  
4/20/76 Flexible

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Bu

Executive Registry

76.1755/2

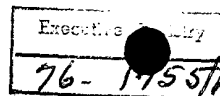
This arrived Friday afternoon, and I have work under way to prepare letters for your signature to the individual NPICers who contributed so much. Meanwhile, I think you should see prior to your lunch with Administrator/NASA, since it concerns some of his capabilities.

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6 April 1976  
EA/DCI: Jennifer - As far as I know, Mr. Bush has not reacted to the invitation to get together Mr. Harper. He probably should  
Date 5 April 1976

FORM 10-1-76 PREVIOUS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON



April 1, 1976

OFFICE OF  
THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear George:

The United States' efforts during the recent Guatemala earthquake provide an excellent example of the benefits from our two agencies working together.

Over the past two years, I have found other areas in science and technology where mutual benefit could be derived and, hopefully, we could discuss them in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan".

Daniel Parker

Honorable George H. Bush  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

AID

20 April